

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A composite material comprising:
an insulating material comprising a material selected from foam, fiberglass mat, macerated paper mat, and cork mat; and
a backing material disposed in generally contiguous relation to the insulating material, wherein the backing material comprises a moisture barrier material.
2. The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the insulating material comprises a foam.
3. The composite material of Claim 2 wherein the foam is an open cell foam.
4. The composite material of Claim 2 wherein the foam comprises perforations.
5. The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the backing material comprises a thermoplastic material.
6. The composite material of Claim 5 wherein the backing material comprises an olefinic polymer.
7. The composite material of Claim 6 wherein the olefinic polymer comprises polyethylene, polypropylene, or a combination thereof.
8. The composite material of Claim 5 wherein the thermoplastic material comprises thermoplastic fibers.
9. The composite material of Claim 8 wherein the thermoplastic fibers comprise olefinic polymer fibers.
10. The composite material of Claim 9 wherein the olefinic polymer fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene fibers and polypropylene fibers.

11. The composite material of Claim 1 further comprising an adhesive for securing portions of the backing material to the insulating material.
12. The composite material of Claim 11 wherein the adhesive comprises a breathable adhesive.
13. The composite material of Claim 11 wherein the secured portions of the backing material are substantially coextensive with the insulating material.
14. The composite material of Claim 1 further comprising an adhesive along at least a portion of the insulating material for securing the composite material to a structure.
15. The composite material of Claim 1 further comprising an adhesive along at least a portion of the backing material for securing the composite material to a structure.
16. The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the insulating material comprises a fiberglass mat.
17. The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the insulating material comprises a macerated paper mat.
18. The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the insulating material comprises a cork mat.
19. A composite material comprising:
an insulating material comprising an air cellular material, wherein the air cellular material defines a plurality of gas-filled cavities having land areas separating the cavities and wherein the land areas define perforations; and
a backing material disposed in generally contiguous relation to the insulating material, wherein the backing material comprises a moisture barrier material.
20. The composite material of Claim 19 further comprising a second backing material in

generally contiguous relation to the insulating material.

21. The composite material of Claim 20 wherein the insulating material is positioned between the backing material and the second backing material.
22. The composite material of Claim 19 wherein the air cellular material comprises first and second thermoplastic films laminated together.
23. The composite material of Claim 22 wherein one or more of the first and second thermoplastic films comprise a coextruded film.
24. The composite material of Claim 23 wherein the coextruded film comprises a barrier film.
25. The composite material of Claim 24 wherein the barrier film comprises a nylon film.
26. The composite material of Claim 22 wherein the first and second thermoplastic films comprise low density thermoplastic films.
27. The composite material of Claim 22 wherein the backing material comprises a thermoplastic material.
28. The composite material of Claim 27 wherein the backing material has a fusion temperature at least slightly above a fusion temperature associated with the first and second films.
29. The composite material of Claim 27 wherein the backing material comprises a high density thermoplastic film.
30. The composite material of Claim 22 wherein the thermoplastic films are each independently selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl chloride films, polyvinylidene chloride films, and olefinic polymer films.
31. The composite material of Claim 30 wherein the olefinic polymer films are selected from

the group consisting of polyethylene and polypropylene polymer films.

32. The composite material of Claim 19 wherein the backing material comprises a thermoplastic material.

33. The composite material of Claim 32 wherein the backing material comprises a non-woven polyester.

34. The composite material of Claim 32 wherein the backing material comprises an olefinic polymer.

35. The composite material of Claim 34 wherein the olefinic polymer comprises polyethylene, polypropylene, or a combination thereof.

36. The composite material of Claim 32 wherein the thermoplastic material comprises thermoplastic fibers.

37. The composite material of Claim 36 wherein the thermoplastic fibers comprise olefinic polymer fibers.

38. The composite material of Claim 37 wherein the olefinic polymer fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene fibers and polypropylene fibers.

39. The composite material of Claim 19 wherein portions of the backing material are laminated to the insulating material.

40. The composite material of Claim 39 wherein laminated portions of the backing material are substantially coextensive with the insulating material.

41. The composite material of Claim 19 comprising an adhesive for securing portions of the backing material to the insulating material.

42. The composite material of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive comprises a breathable adhesive.
43. The composite material of Claim 41 wherein the secured portions of the backing material are substantially coextensive with the insulating material.
44. The composite material of Claim 19 comprising an adhesive along at least a portion of the insulating material for securing the composite material to a structure.
45. The composite material of Claim 19 comprising an adhesive along at least a portion of the backing material for securing the composite material to a structure.
46. A method of forming the composite material of Claim 1 comprising the steps of:
providing the insulating material;
providing the backing material; and
securing the backing material in generally superposed, contiguous relation to the insulating material.
47. A method of forming the composite material of Claim 19 comprising the steps of:
providing the insulating material;
providing the backing material; and
securing the backing material in generally superposed, contiguous relation to the insulating material.
48. A method for insulating a structure comprising the step of at least partially wrapping the structure with the composite material of Claim 19.
49. The method of Claim 48 wherein the composite material is secured to the structure with an adhesive.
50. The method of Claim 48 wherein the structure is a building.